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RA Libby

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US SPENT FUEL TEAM

CHRON

TO: CHERIE FITZGERALD, US DOE NW-42
202 586 8525, FAX 202 586 2323
FROM: WINSTON LITTLE, DOE ONSITE MONITOR
850 2 381 4423, FAX 850 2 381 2473
DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1995

When we arrived at the site this morning, we learned that Chiller B had tripped out at 11:00 pm yesterday due to low flow (NOTE: in yesterday's report, I incorrectly switched Units A and B). John performed the same sensor bypass on Chiller B that Gordon

The following items are in response to questions that Dick Libby asked in a phone conversation.

- a) The pH of the water is between 10.5 and 11.
- b) Engineer Li was skeptical on the use of the washing pit as a settling pond, but did not rule it out. His primary concern was the general spread of radioactivity (might be solved by liner), added dose to personnel working by pit (might be solved by steel cover), and ultimate disposal of the waste that settles in the bottom of the settling pond (his primary concern). He made clear that DPRK would not be responsible for the disposition of waste in the bottom of the settling pond, and that we would ultimately need to package that waste in some form. He was also concerned about the level of activity in the disposal bags if we propose to perform the bagging operation above water. Approximate dimensions: length and width about 3 meters, wall height above floor about 1 m, water level about 1 m below wall and 3 m deep. This would yield a volume of roughly 27 m³.
- c) Late this afternoon, George, together with DPRK personnel, remeasured the dose rates in the vicinity of the one floating filter bag (the bag floats in a vertical position at the edge of pool). The results:
 - 1) 30 cm over bag: 25 mR/hr
 - 2) 30 cm over water (same position, bag moved about 1.5 m): 20 mR/hr
 - 3) 30 cm over water, 30 cm from side of bag, bag lifted from water: 28 mR/hr
 - 4) 30 cm over new position in center of pool: 23 mR/hr
 - 5) 2 m over new position in pool: 15 mR/hr.

From the above data, it is concluded that the dose from the filter bag is very low.